

WARRANT
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Norfolk, ss

To Any Constable of the Town of Brookline,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to NOTIFY and WARN the Inhabitants of the TOWN OF BROOKLINE, qualified to vote at elections to meet at the High School Auditorium in said Brookline on WEDNESDAY, the THIRTEENTH day of NOVEMBER, 2002, at 8:00 o'clock in the evening for a Special Town Meeting at which time and place the following article is to be acted upon and determined by the representative town meeting:

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: We as a people and a nation must not retreat from our commitment to act as a constructive force within the community of nations. Human progress resides in the respect for international law and the sovereignty of nations. As the strongest of these nations, the U.S. has a special responsibility to uphold and abide by broadly supported principles of international behavior such as those laid out in the U.N. Charter; and

WHEREAS: The U.N. Charter decrees:

1. No nation can use military force except in self-defense (arts. 39, 51);
2. The Security Council is the only body that can authorize the use of force (art. 24; ch. VII); &
3. Only the Security Council can decide what action can be taken to maintain or restore international peace and security. (art. 39); and

WHEREAS: We view with great alarm two major changes in U.S. foreign policy by the Bush administration: a new policy of "preemptive" attack, and a concerted determination to act unilaterally in world affairs. Both policies eviscerate a half-century of successes in establishing safeguards minimizing violence in the conduct of international relations; and

WHEREAS: The Bush administration has blurred the important distinction between “preemptive war” and the more pertinent and far more treacherous notion of “preventive war.” Our Sen. Kennedy recently said: “‘preemptive’ action refers to times when states react to an imminent threat of attack. ... By contrast, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was a ‘preventive’ action. The coldly premeditated nature of preventive attacks and preventive wars makes them anathema to well-established principles against aggression”; and

WHEREAS: We regret Congress’ abdication of its responsibility, reminiscent of the shameful Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. As stated by Sen. Byrd, the recently-passed Resolution “... is a blank check for the president to take whatever action he feels ‘is necessary and appropriate in order to defend the national security of the United States against the continuing threat posed by Iraq.’ ... Congress must not attempt to give away the authority to determine when war is to be declared.”; and

WHEREAS: The desire of people the world over is to feel safe and secure. The surest long-term path to safety and security, both domestic and abroad, is through collaborative efforts under international law – not through belligerence and unilateralism.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Brookline Town Meeting:

A. opposes any U.S. attack on Iraq until and unless (1) there is clear and convincing evidence of a serious and imminent threat of aggression by Iraq, and (2) the U.N. has determined that collective action is necessary against Iraq; and

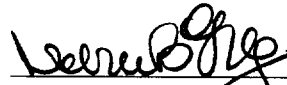
B. believes that, at this time, neither of these conditions has been met.

AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS WARRANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS OF THE TOWN OF BROOKLINE.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this WARRANT, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, FOURTEEN DAYS at least before the day of said meeting.


Given under our hands and the seal of the Town of Brookline, Massachusetts, this 22nd day of October, 2002.

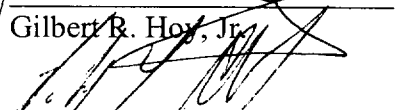
Board of Selectmen


Deborah B. Goldberg, Chair


Donna R. Kalikow


Joseph T. Geller


Gilbert R. Hoy, Jr.


Robert L. Allen

[Town Seal]